

Appl. No. 10/036,749
Amdt. dated October 9, 2003
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

REMARKS

With entry of the instant amendment, claims 1-28 have been cancelled and new claims 29-48 have been added. Thus, claims 29-48 are currently pending.

The new claims add no new matter and are supported throughout the application and claims as filed.

Claim 29 recites a period of caloric restriction that is, post-weaning, less than life-long. Support for the amendment can be found, *e.g.*, in the examples such as in Example 1, page 16, lines 20-22, where it explains that long-term caloric restriction begins post-weaning and in Example 22, page 52, lines 6-8, where long term (LT) caloric restriction is life-long.

Claim 33 recites calorie-restricted and control mammals that are mature. Support can be found, *e.g.*, in the specification on page 14, lines 7-9.

Claim 44 recites a method comprising comparing a gene expression profile from a young caloric-restricted animal to a gene expression profile from a control animal, and identifying changes in the gene expression profile that occur in the caloric-restricted animal. Support can be found, *e.g.*, in Figure 8 and the description of Figure 8 (page 8) and Example 21 (pages 48-50).

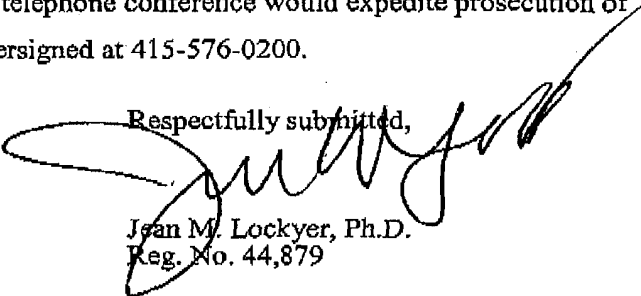
Claims 46 and 47 recite comparing the gene expression profiles from an old animal that is caloric-restricted to the gene expression profiles from the young caloric-restricted animal and the control animal; and identifying changes that occur in both the young and old calorie-restricted animals (claim 46) or identifying changes that occur in only the young caloric-restricted animals or only the old caloric-restricted animal. Support can be found, *e.g.*, in Examples 21-24 (pages 47-56).

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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


Jean M. Lockyer, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 44,879

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
JML:jml - 60046848 v1

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